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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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provided with 40 Horch 111 3-ton trucks, each Bereitschaft receiving one. The Bereitschaften were equipped with German rifles, machine guns (MG-8) and automatic rifles (MP 44). Whereas all equipment up to that time was of German origin, source learned that Russian equipment would eventually replace it.

5. The Russians consider the new type Bereitschaften as on a par with Russian regiments, which will eventually become divisions. It is source's belief that those divisions will also be modelled on the Russian pattern of an infantry division.
6. The Sovietniks are Soviet officers, usually holding the rank of major or lieutenant colonel, who direct the military indoctrination in schools and Bereitschaften.** Each unit has only one Sovietnik. They are for the most part army combat officers placed on temporary duty with the aforementioned units. Although they are supposed to act in an advisory capacity only, they are said to wield considerable influence over the German commanders of those units. The Sovietniks are billeted in the Komendatura nearest to the unit they have been assigned to. They wear German police uniforms while on duty. Off duty they are permitted to wear civilian clothes. Source contends that Petrakovsky himself ordered German uniforms for the Sovietniks. The Sovietniks wear the same rank insignia as the school commandants and the chiefs of the Bereitschaften. Source heard a rumor to the effect that an important Soviet was going to arrive from Moscow who is slated to become the Sovietnik on Zaissers's staff.
7. All training manuals, aids, etc. are prepared by Germans. They are later translated into Russian, checked and edited by the proper Soviet authorities, and re-translated into German.

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8. [REDACTED] has never heard of the existence of Volkspolizei air units. He claims that he would have known about them if such units were actually in existence.

9. At one time a proposal was made to organize a naval police school on the island of Ruegen. This proposal is said to have been rejected by the political advisor Someoneov.

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10. [REDACTED] claims that nothing has been heard of Hermann Rentzsch (chief of staff of Hauptabteilung Bereitschaften in the old GAI) since Wilhelm Zaissers was named to head the Verwaltung für Schulung.

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11. [REDACTED] the present remilitarization program largely resulted from the thought that some day the Russians may suggest the withdrawal of all troops from Germany. If the Western powers agree, the Russians will still have an army within Germany to protect their interests, an army which in case of war would also be depended upon to support the Russian forces.

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- * Comment: This is the first independent confirmation of the previously reported fact that General Petrakovsky is in charge of the Soviet control element supervising the affairs of the "Hauptverwaltung für Ausbildung". The existence of a Department for Military Affairs had not been reported before and should await corroboration before being accepted.

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- ** Comment: [REDACTED] the Sovietniks fully corroborates a report received from a B-source. The term "Military" indoctrination should be accepted as connoting political indoctrination. The two cannot be separated under the Soviet training system.

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